



It Seems to Me...

by Nels Anderson, KLUR

Although we applied for Special Service Club status at the beginning of February, the ARRL has now come up with special application forms, so apparently we have to start all over again. Although we easily qualify for Special Service Club status as far as our programs go, the League has thrown a wrench into the procedure for application that was never mentioned in the QST article, nor by Rick Beebe when he discussed the program as part of his talk in February. As part of the application they now want a list of all W.A.R.S. members who are also League members as well as their League membership number.

Did you even know you had a League membership number? Well apparently it's the number printed on the top line of your QST mailing label. Of course old QST mailing wrappers are not something usually kept around the use so this information is not the st readily available.

We would still like to go through

with the Special Service Club application, but now some of the responsibility has to go out to you, the members of the club. Next month please save your QST mailing label and either bring it to the next club meeting or mail it to me at 92 Bishop Drive, Framingham, Mass. 01701, or even better call me at 872-5259 as soon as your QST comes so you don't forget. There is going to be a problem getting enough people to remember, so please try to be one who does.

By the way, if you are not now a League member, this is a good time to join. Remember also whether you are renewing or joining for the first time, send your application to C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, 48 Hale Street, Newton, Mass. 02164, instead of directly to the League as this way, W.A.R.S. gets to keep \$2.00 of your membership fee.

ACTIVITIES

Don't forget our two major April activities, the Boston Marathon and the auction. These are both held on the same weekend, the auction on Saturday, April 16 and the Marathon on Patriot's Day, Monday, April 18. If you haven't signed up to help with these activities, please do so now.

EVENTS

At our April 7 meeting Mort Cohan, KALIU, will give a talk on and demonstration of second generation high resolution slow-scan television. He has been quite active since getting on slow-scan a few months ago and has been able to send and receive both standard format and high resolution pictures with his equipment. If you missed seeing his station at the Natick Mall, here's another chance. See you there, April 7 at 7:30 p.m.

MEETINGS THIS MONTH: _____

April 7, 1983, at 7:30 p.m.

April 21, 1983, at 7:30 p.m.

Intermediate Bldg, Wellesley Hills, Mass.

ELECTRONICS EXCHANGE

For Sale: Heathkit HR-1680 SSB/CW receiver, 80-10 meters, like new condition, asking \$100. Would be an excellent novice receiver. Contact Erik Thoresen, KLOGF, at club meetings or call 653-1216 Wednesday or Friday evenings.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Number 16, dated March 2, 1983:

AMTOR, a digital teleprinter operation that produces copy less prone to errors, is now permitted in the Amateur HF bands from 3 to 30 MHz. The new rules became effective with their publication in the February 22 Federal Register, see page 7457. For a description of this handshaking technique, see June 1981 QST.

Auctions / Flea Markets

April 9: The third annual hamfest-flea market, sponsored by the Great Bay Radio Association, will be held at the Somersworth Armory, Somersworth, N.H. from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Antique radios and computers will be on display. Food and refreshments available. Admission \$1.00. Talk-in on 146.52 and 147.00.

April 10: Framingham Amateur Radio Association annual spring flea market at the Framingham Civic League Hall on Concord Street, (Route 126) in downtown Framingham. Located on the corner of Sanger and Concord Streets, one block south of Dunkin Donuts. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. for sellers and 10:00 a.m. for buyers. Admission is \$2.00. Talk-in on 147.75/15 and 146.52.

April 16: Our own Wellesley Amateur

Radio Society annual spring auction to be held at a new site this year, the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church, 207 Washington Street (Route 16), Wellesley. This is right at the intersection of Routes 9 and 16. Club members are needed for set up starting at 9:00 a.m., doors open for check in at 10:00 a.m. and the auction starts at 11:00 a.m. Talk-in on 147.63/03 and 146.52.

April 17: South Shore Amateur Radio Club indoor flea market, at the Viking Club, 410 Quincy Avenue, Braintree. Doors open from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$1.00.

May 7: Hoss Traders tailgate flea market, Deerfield, N.H. Admission is \$1.00 for buyers and sellers. Friday night camping available at a nominal fee (after 4:00 p.m.). Talk-in on 146.40/147.00 and 146.52.

May 14: Hampden County Radio Association Amateur Radio and Computer flea market, at the Springfield Elks Lodge, 440 Tiffany Street, Springfield, Mass. Doors open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$1.00.

May 21: 76 Flea Market and Auction, at Steeres Beach Club, Waterman Lake, Greenville, R.I. Use I-295 to Exit 7B, take Route 44 west 3.4 miles. Flea market from 9:00 a.m. to noon, auction noon to 5:00 p.m. Talk-in on 146.16/76 and 146.34/94.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

David Curry, K1TK, 237-2450

VICE PRESIDENT:

Roger Smith, W1EOA, 235-6239

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Nels Anderson, K1UR, 872-5259

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Skid Schermerhorn, W1TTY, 235-1987

TREASURER:

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, 332-6091

FUND RAISING:

Kevin Kelly, W1YHV, 242-0341

OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Erik Thoresen, KLOGF, 653-1216

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR:

NELS J. ANDERSON, K1UR
92 BISHOP DRIVE
FRAMINGHAM, MASS. 01701
872-5259

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, FCC RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS \$8.00. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
324 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02181



Minutes

Meeting of February 17, 1983:

The meeting was opened at 7:53 p.m. by Treasurer C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, with 12 present.

The Secretary's report was given.

The Treasurer's report was given.

A report on our application for Special Service Club status was given. We have sent our application to the Affiliated Club Coordinator, but have not heard anything back yet.

A report on the auction preparations was given.

A discussion of possible Field Day sites was held. Several new sites in the local area were mentioned, and those people who brought them up agreed to investigate them further.

A report on the success of the General class trip to the FCC: all six succeeded in achieving a higher class license, with three Technicians and three Generals.

The meeting was closed at 8:33 p.m.

Meeting of March 3, 1983:

The meeting was opened at 7:40 p.m. by President David Curry, K1TK.

The secretary's report was read.

It was announced that the building housing the club is really going to be closed after several years of discussion by the town. We were given about two weeks notice that we were to clear out by March 12, but we were able to get an extension until June 30 which will give us time to find a new permanent location and to sell off some of our surplus at the spring flea markets.

It was announced that the auction is all set to go.

The meeting was adjourned to our evening's speaker, Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, for his talk on satellite television.

Meeting of March 17, 1983:

The meeting was opened at 7:45 p.m. by President David Curry, K1TK.

Since the recording secretary was not present, no minutes of the previous meeting were read.

The treasurer's report was given.

Skid Schermerhorn, W1TTY, gave a report on the status of the club relocation plans to date. With attention directed to the "Townsmen" article on the building and W.A.R.S. it was his belief that we were granted an extension until the 30th of June. We have not received a letter from the town as yet.

Next, our speaker of the evening, Hank Lysaght, gave a very interesting talk on fiber-optics that the Bell Telephone system is using today and what the future is likely to be. Hank's son helped run the slide show that accompanied his talk. Hank offered a field trip to the Wellesley Central Office in May or June to be

arranged.

After the talk more business was discussed. The first thing was nominations for next years officers. C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, conducted the proceedings with the following slate arrived at: President: Dick Paret, WALZLQ; Vice President: David Curry, K1TK; Recording Secretary: Nels Anderson, K1UR; Corresponding Secretary: Allan Bacon, K1BA; Treasurer: C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM; Fund Raising: Kevin Kelly, WALYHV; Operating Activities: Erik Thoresen, KLOGF.

Erik Thoresen, KLOGF, asked for volunteers to monitor 146.52 and local repeaters to carry on short QSO's with him on Saturday, March 19. Erik is demonstrating Ham Radio to the Campfire Girls & Boys on the celebration of their 70th anniversary. The event will take place at the Natick Mall and the object of the day is to provide the girls and boys a way to earn an award.

Dick Paret, WALZLQ, gave a list of upcoming events and asked for volunteers for the same. The calendar follows:

- April 14: BAA meeting at the club
- April 16: W.A.R.S. auction
- April 18: BAA marathon
- May 1: Charles River Run
- May 1: Wellesley bike-a-thon
- May 7: VSCCA hill climb, Wellesley
- June 11-12: VSCCA hill climb,
Mt. Equinox
- June 11-12: VHF contest,
Mt. Equinox
- June 25-26: Field Day

Dick Paret, WALZLQ, described the ARRL club liability insurance that he felt as an insurance man the club should have. The insurance plan was discussed extensively and a vote was taken to apply for it at \$120 per year. The result of the vote was 12 for and 0 against with 4 abstaining.

Jim Hatherley, WALTBY, reminded the membership that they should write their comments to the FCC about the no-code license proposal by the 29th of April. (Editor's note: this has

now been extended until June 28.)

The meeting was closed at 9:50 p.m. by WALZLQ and KLOGF as the president had left for an important appointment after the guest speaker's talk. (The appointment was said to have something to do with a certain Irish saint.)

(Thanks to Erik Thoresen, KLOGF, for recording these minutes.)

FIELD DAY!

by Erik Thoresen, KLOGF

The last weekend in June sounds like it is a long way in the future, but now is the time to select a site for this event. A number of sites were suggested at the last business meeting which need further consideration. Site location will be based on easy access, generator noise, parking of cars, open area to erect a tower, trees for wire antennas, overnight camping, and enthusiasm.

If you have a suitable site I suggest, please let me know about it at a club meeting or on HHTN or EM2MN. Site evaluation and written permission should be secured by the first of May.

The class of operation and the equipment needed should be given consideration at this time also.

NEW ENGLAND REPORT

Tufts Electronics will no longer sell Amateur Radio equipment. The Hudson, New Hampshire store was closed for business; a taped telephone message indicated the store would re-open March 12 as a computer store.

New England Report, March 15, 1983

Travelers in New Hampshire will soon find convenient repeater guides placed in state highway rest areas. The 5 1/2" by 8 1/2" cards will list New Hampshire repeaters as well as the name and address of the Section Manager. A project of K1LM, the guide await final approval from state officials. Thanks WB8TDA.

New England Report, March 15, 1983

"New Tickets"



We recently received a note from Bob Drapeau that he has now received his Novice license and is on the air as KALJXS. Bob writes that he has a Kenwood TS-530S and Hygain vertical and in his first four days on the air has worked seven states as far away as Texas using 80 and 15 meters. Congratulations Bob.

We don't know the names of all those from the General class who upgraded last month, but one of them was Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, ex-KALJRG, who upgraded to General and just missed the Advanced. Tom has also been on the 147.63/03 repeater lately since he bought himself an IC-25A.

Anyone else who has upgraded or changed calls please let the club know.

Public Service

by Erik Thoresen, K1OGF

On the 19th of March, K1OGF volunteered his services to the Campfire Girls & Boys of the local area. Too early Saturday morning he set up a 2-meter station, antenna and all in the center of the Natick Mall. With the station was a demonstration of the new Icom R-70 receiver with a TV whip antenna and loading coil. Many passing Hams tried the R-70 with favorable comments about it.

The main objective of the day was to provide an introduction to Ham Radio to the many girls and boys of Campfire on the 70th anniversary of Campfire Girls & Boys. The children could earn an award of a bead under the category of Science-Communications for visiting a Ham Radio operator. They had to learn about the log book, what the different frequencies used by Hams were, and then listen/participate

in a QSO. Most were shy and only listened.

In all the day was a success, about 50 children received their beads, many Hams stopped by to see the operation and also to ragchew a bit, the temporary set-up in the Mall worked much better than expected, and about 20 QSO's were made.

In finishing this article I would like to thank the many people that made the day a success. Thanks for the cooperation of the Campfire leaders, especially Sharon Kenrick, and the Natick Mall, Kathy Ohnemus the marketing director of the Mall, also Bill at the Mall for providing the AC power.

Last and most important is a list of the Hams who I had QSO's with: W1ZLQ, W1EBN, W1ZFQ, W1TTY, N1CPF, K1ENT, W1JDO, N1BHA, N1AXG, K1TK, K1ENP, W1EAZ, W1HMW and N1DYQ. Also thanks to the trustees of 63/03, 75/15, and 04/64 for the use of their repeaters.

THE WESTLINK REPORT THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

W4MB has filed a "petition of reconsideration" on his earlier request to have the 18 and 24 MHz WARC bands allocated to the U.S. Amateur Service as quickly as possible. The FCC denied his request in December of 1982 and dismissed his petition because the Commission felt it had been filed prematurely. In his petition to reconsider their action, W4MB noted that several other nations have already granted Amateurs interim operating permits for the bands, and that the proposed date of U.S. implementation will be at sunspot cycle minimum, rendering them nearly useless for practical Amateur communication for many years. W4MB also complained that the Private Radio Bureau did not address any of the issues he raised in the original petition, and termed it an "inappropriate procedural ruling" on the part of the FCC.

Westlink Report, February 25, 1983

Hearabouts....

by Erik Thoresen, KLOGF

The following article is a report of the current status on relocating the club as discussed at the March 17th meeting.

Skid Schermerhorn, W1TTY, and Dick Paret, W1ZLQ, are investigating locations for W.A.R.S. The following have been reviewed:

The Route 9 fire station has room for storage of heavy items such as antennas, towers, etc.

Wellesley Red Cross is receptive to our needs for a meeting place and location for a combination station/library. A letter was received from Joan Norton of Red Cross in regard to the above. The board room could be used for meetings and classes with a few stipulations, namely, absolutely no smoking is allowed, the room must be kept clean as other people use it, and some form of donation would be appreciated. The donation question brought many thoughts to mind by various members: a flat fee, percentage of the auction, and also the most readily received was donation of more time to support Red Cross activities, i.e., more activity in town events.

The room for the station/library would be shared with the Red Cross copying machine, so if a station is installed it would have to be locked against unauthorized use.

There will be a meeting at the Red Cross board room on the evening of April 13th at 8:00 p.m. Skid, W1TTY, will be there and has asked that as many of the club officers as possible be present also.

An additional point was mentioned that the Red Cross people would like us to carry some liability insurance. The consensus of opinion was a letter on file with the Red Cross would be most sufficient, stating that we relieve them of all liability in regard to our activities.

THE WESTLINK REPORT THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

AMSAT's Phase III-C satellite will probably not be put into orbit from a United States flag launch vehicle. The original plan was to insert the Phase III-C into orbit as a secondary payload with the Discus Satellite, but the military has turned down AMSAT's request. Among the reasons cited were the cost of integrating Phase III-C into the launch vehicle and what they termed "the jeopardy it might cause the mission." It seems that AMSAT will have to look elsewhere for a ride into space for the Phase III-C, but it should be noted that "free" and "reduced cost" launches are becoming few and far between. This, however, will have no effect on the upcoming Phase III-B launch scheduled for the second half of this month on board the European Space Agency's Arianne L-6 booster.

Westlink Report, February 25, 1983

AMSAT has been awarded a \$15,000 "Design Definition Grant" from the Volunteers in Technical Assistance (VITA) organization to support development of the PACSAT satellite system. PACSAT is projected as a future low-cost, reliable digital satellite relay system designed to meet requirements for communications of technical information. AMSAT's role in this joint activity will be to provide hardware suitable for demonstration programs as well as providing technical assistance in the overall development of the PACSAT system. The announcement of the grant was made by VITA Director Henry Norman and VITA Project Coordinator Dr. Gary Garriott, WA9FMQ. Dr. Garriott is a cousin of astronaut Dr. Owen Garriott, W5LFL. Thanks AMRAD.

Westlink Report, February 25, 1983

Don't forget, the club auction is on April 16 and the Marathon on April 18, with a meeting for participant in the Marathon April 14 (note this: not a normal meeting night).